

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

CENTINELA VALLEY UNION HIGH
SCHOOL DISTRICT & LOS ANGELES
COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION.

OAH CASE NO. 2014060390

ORDER GRANTING SECOND
REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE [NO
FURTHER] AND SETTING
PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND
HEARING

On September 15, 2014, the parties filed a second stipulated request to continue the hearing dates in this matter. The reason given was that assessments currently being conducted might lead to resolution through settlement.

A due process hearing must be conducted and a decision rendered within 45 days of receipt of the due process notice unless an extension is granted for good cause. (34 C.F.R. § 300.515(a) & (c) (2006); Ed. Code, §§ 56502, subd. (f), 56505, subd. (f)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1020.) As a result, continuances are disfavored. Good cause may include the unavailability of a party, counsel, or an essential witness due to death, illness or other excusable circumstances; substitution of an attorney when the substitution is required in the interests of justice; a party's excused inability to obtain essential testimony or other material evidence despite diligent efforts; or another significant, unanticipated change in the status of the case as a result of which the case is not ready for hearing. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(c).) OAH considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including the proximity of the hearing date; previous continuances or delays; the length of continuance requested; the availability of other means to address the problem giving rise to the request; prejudice to a party or witness as a result of a continuance; the impact of granting a continuance on other pending hearings; whether trial counsel is engaged in another trial; whether the parties have stipulated to a continuance; whether the interests of justice are served by the continuance; and any other relevant fact or circumstance. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(d).)

OAH has reviewed the request for good cause and considered all relevant facts and circumstances. The request is:

☒ Granted. All dates are vacated. However, further, continuances are not contemplated for any reason, including the ground that the assessments referred to in the request have not been completed. This continuance of nearly 90 days is more than sufficient to conduct any necessary assessment and given the age of this matter, the parties will have had more than ample time to engage in settlement negotiations. This matter will be set as follows:

Mediation:	N/A
Prehearing Conference:	December 1, 2014 at 3:00 PM
Due Process Hearing:	December 9-11, 2014 at 9:30 AM first day, 9:00 AM other days, and continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: September 15, 2014

/s/
RICHARD T. BREEN
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings